

STATINTL □

29 July 1953

Memorandum for: The Director of Central Intelligence

Subject: Emergency Migration Act of 1953

1. As originally proposed by President Eisenhower, this Act was to authorize the issuance of 240,000 special quota immigrant visas. On 28 July the House passed H. R. 6481 by a vote of 221 to 185 to authorize the issuance of 217,000 visas.

2. The House bill provides that the provisions of this Act will be administered by the Administrator of the Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs in the Department of State (Scott McLeod). It is informally understood that this work will be delegated to Mr. Herve L. Heureux, of the Department of State. The Senate bill proposes a separate administration under an Emergency Migration Coordinator. As this sounds like a new type of DP Commission, the House plans to insist on its version of the bill and have the work handled through the Consular Service. It should be noted that in a letter to Congressman Hillings supporting the security aspects of the bill, Mr. McLeod stated that, "In most cases, this will include a check of Central Intelligence Agency files overseas."

3. The bill as it passed the House provided:

a. Not to exceed 60,000 visas to German expellees residing on the date of enactment in the area of the German Federal Republic or the Western Zones of Berlin, Vienna or Austria;

b. Not to exceed 60,000 visas to nationals of Italy residing on the date of enactment in Italy or in the Free Territory of Trieste, of which 45,000 shall be available to such nationals who were forced to return or were displaced from their places of residence in Istria, Venezia, Giulio or the former Italian colonies, and 15,000 shall be available to certain preference categories. These

latter limitations were added by the Senate Committee and by Congressman Walter. The original request was for 73,000, which the Senate Committee has reduced to 66,000, and by further agreement with the minority has, by Floor amendment, been reduced to 62,000;

c. Not to exceed 20,000 visas to nations of Greece residing on the date of enactment in Greece, of which 10,000 visas shall be available to Greek Nationals who were forced to flee from their homes in Greece as a result of military operations after 1 January 1940, and 10,000 visas shall be available for certain preference cases. These latter limitations were added by Congressman Walter, and a Committee amendment reduced the numbers from 25,000 to 20,000. The Senate bill calls for 17,000 visas, a reduction of 2,500 over the original Senate bill;

d. Not to exceed 20,000 visas to nationals of the Netherlands residing on the date of enactment in metropolitan Netherlands. The House Committee reduced the figure from 25,000 to 20,000. The present Senate bill calls for 17,000, a reduction of 2,500 over the bill originally introduced in the Senate;

e. Not to exceed 25,000 visas to refugees residing on the date of enactment in the area of the German Federal Republic or the Western sectors of Berlin, Vienna and Austria. The House Committee reduced this figure from 35,000. The total German expellees and refugees is, therefore, 85,000, as opposed to the 97,000 contained in the present Senate bill, and 108,000 originally requested;

f. Not to exceed 15,000 visas for persons residing on the date of enactment within the European Continental limits of countries which are members of NATO, or in Turkey, Sweden, Iran, or the Free Territory of Trieste. This is 2,000 more than in the present Senate bill, but adds Sweden and Iran. The original request was for 15,000 visas without Sweden and Iran. This was further reduced

on the Floor of the Senate to 10,000 in order to secure an extra 2,000 visas for Senator McCarran's amendment which was adopted and provides for not to exceed 2,000 visas to refugees of Chinese ethnic origin whose requests for visas are endorsed by the Chinese National Government on Formosa or its authorized representatives;

g. Not to exceed 3,000 visas for persons who were honorably discharged from the Republic of Poland armed services residing on the date of enactment in the British Isles and who have not acquired British citizenship. This proviso was added in Committee by Congressman Walter, largely supported by the testimony of the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Felix F. Burant, President of the Polish Immigration Committee, and is to take care of the so-called "Anders Poles." There is no comparable provision in the Senate bill, but Senator Hendrickson is pressing for an amendment on the Floor or an agreement to accept the House provision in conference;

h. Not to exceed 2,000 visas to aliens of European origin who, because of persecution or fear of persecution, fled from Communist dominated China after June 16, 1950, and who apply for such visas in Hong Kong. This provision is largely for White Russians, and was put in at the request of the Tolstoy Foundation. The Committee recommended 3,000, but this number was reduced to 2,000 by the amendment of Congressman Judd, who wished to keep the figure in line with other Asiatic quotas which he proposed;

i. Not to exceed 2,000 visas to refugees of the Chinese race residing on the date of enactment in Hong Kong. This amendment, which had originally been approved by the Subcommittee and deleted by the full Committee, was restored on the Floor by Congressman Judd;

j. Not to exceed 2,000 visas to nationals of Japan residing on the date of enactment in Japan. This amendment was inserted on the Floor by Congressman Judd.

The Japanese Embassy has already called the Committee to say how proud they are to be included in the amendment, but suggesting that in view of the difficulty in selecting the 2,000 immigrants it might be preferable to amend the section to authorize that they be Japanese who have returned from the Asiatic mainland to Japan;

k. Not to exceed 2,000 visas to aliens who on the date of enactment are eligible to receive assistance from the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees in the Near East (Palestine Arabs). This amendment was offered on the Floor by Congressman Judd;

l. The Committee included not to exceed 2,000 visas to nationals of Portugal who on the date of enactment were residing in Portugal. This amendment was included at the request of Speaker Martin and was amended on the Floor to include residence in the Azores Islands;

m. Not to exceed 4,000 special quota visas for orphans under ten years of age.

4. The sum total of this bill as passed by the House is 217,000. The Committee reductions which have been indicated above were made to bring the bill closer to the Senate version, which calls for 209,000.

Walter L. Pforzheimer
Legislative Counsel